



Exploring potential for the transference of social innovation tools across three districts in Uttar Pradesh

As part of the acceleration phase of the Work4Progress program, Development Alternatives has partnered with Transform Rural India Foundation (TRI) for implementation of the programme in three new districts of Uttar Pradesh (Lakhimpur Kheri, Bahraich and Basti). The visit was conducted with the objective to map the existing systems related to enterprise development in the blocks of Nighasan, Mihinpurwa and Bankati in the district respective districts of Lakhimpur Kheri, Bahraich and Basti. The mapping exercises and community mobilisation activities were conducted by representatives from DA and TRI.

Across the three blocks, main stakeholders with whom meetings were conducted included members from cluster level federations, Small Village Entrepreneurs Program officer bearers, Uttar Pradesh State Rural Livelihood Mission district level representatives, local vocational training institutes and existing entrepreneurs. The team explored various leverage points as well as existing linkages and systems in place for promoting entrepreneurship in these areas. As per the frame of the project, the team also explored existing needs, opportunities, enablers and barriers, for livelihood creation. During the visit a total of four group listening exercise was conducted in which more than 139 women SHG members participated as well as 18 local stakeholders participated.

Based on the findings of this visit, the team will develop a strategic plan to support the existing SVEP and UPSRLM system to facilitate enterprise set up as well as replicate the various prototypes developed in the W4P program.